

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 CG-00 FAA-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-05

ERDA-07 NRC-07 DLOS-04 FMC-02 /154 W

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R 241350Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4886

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 5893

DEPARTMENT PASS DOT

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN ECOSOC

SUBJ: 59TH ECOSOC: ITEM NO. 21--TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

REF: A. GENEVA 5385; B. STATE 162569; C. GENEVA 5547;

D. STATE 166349; E. MEXICO 6293 AND 6332

1. THREE RESOLUTIONS QUOTED BELOW WERE APPROVED IN PPCC TODAY WITHOUT VOTE. FIRST TWO (E/L.1649/REV.1 AND 1650/REV.1) WERE INTRODUCED BY U.S. AND THRID (1651/REV.1) BY UK, AS IN CASE OF ORIGINAL VERSIONS INTRODUCED IN 58TH ECOSOC.

2. FINAL VERSIONS INTER ALIA INCORPORATED AUSTRALIAN AND EGYPTIAN AMENDMENTS TO 1649 AND UK AMENDMENT TO 1650 PROPOSED DURING 58TH ECOSOC (CONTAINED DOCUMENT E/L.1667 OF JUNE 11), TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF CHANGES TO 1649 AND LESSER CHANGES TO 1651 RESULTING UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM LENGTHY AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT (IN THE CASE OF 1649) NEGOTI-

TIATIONS HERE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AMENDMENTS PROPOSED AT 58TH ECOSOC AND MINOR INSERTIONS PROPOSED HERE BY USSR (REFS A AND B) AND FRANCE, ALL CHANGES WERE MADE IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS BY MEXICO AND ARGENTINA (CLEARED WITH G-77), IN MAJOR CASES REPRESENTING DIFFICULT COMPROMISES.

3. NEGOTIATING GROUP CHAIRED BY U.S. (WHICH WAS OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED DELS) COMPRISED AT MAXIMUM ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, EGYPT, FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN, MEXICO, NORWAY, UK, USSR AND US, PLUS REPS FROM IMCO, OCAO AND ECE SECRETARIAT WHO WERE VERY HELPFUL. WE ALSO CONSULTED BRAZIL AND PAKISTAN, BUT THEY CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN NEGOTIATING GROUP. US, UK, FRG AND USSR WERE PRINCIPAL VOICES FOR EXPERTS COMMITTEE (READ DCS) AND ARGENTINA AND MEXICO FOR LDCS. (POLAND IS ONLY EXPERT COMMITTEE COUNTRY THAT IS NOT A CURRENT MEMBER OF ECOSOC.) ALL CONCERNED SEEM QUITE SATISFIED WITH RESULTS.

4. PRINCIPAL SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN 1649 RESOLVED BY COMPROMISES WERE:

(A) THANKS TO ASSISTANCE BY AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY AND OUR ALLIES HERE, MEXICO ABANDONED INSISTENCE ON SHIFTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR STUDYING POSSIBLE DANGEROUS GOODS CONVENTION FROM EXPERTS COMMITTEE TO UNCTAD PREPARATORY GROUP FOR CONVENTION ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORTS, BUT WE COMPROMISED BY ADDING UNCTAD AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS TO AGENCIES TO BE CONSULTED BY EXPERTS COMMITTEE PLUS PHRASE "TAKING INTO ACCOUNT" FUTURE CONVENTION ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORT (OPERATIVE PARA 2).

(B) WE AGREED TO NEW OPERATIVE PARA 4 INCREASING SIZE OF COMMITTEE BY FIVE MEMBERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN DOING SO WE SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED MEXICAN EFFORT TO LEAVE NUMBER OPEN-ENDED AND ARGENTINE EFFORT TO INCREASE COMMITTEE BY SEVEN OR EIGHT, BUT WE GAVE GROUND ON OUR PROPOSAL TO STIPULATE "UP TO" FIVE SO AS TO INDICATE COMMITTEE WOULD BE COMPLETE EVEN IF LDCS COME UP WITH FEWER THAN FIVE EXPERTS. IN POINT OF FACT, HOWEVER, LATTER COULD WELL TURN OUT TO BE THE CASE, ESPECIALLY SINCE EXPERTS (PLUS TECHNICAL ADVISERS) ARE PROVIDED AT EACH COUNTRY'S EXPENSE.

5. AFTER ADOPTION OF RESES CHINESE REP STATED MATTER WAS COMPLICATED AND NEEDED FURTHER STUDY SO THEY WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED HAD THERE BEEN VOTE. SOVIETS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH RESES AND UNCLASSIFIED

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REQUESTED RECOMMENDED STANDARDS BE TRANSLATED INTO RUSSIAN (IN ADDITION TO ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH COVERED IN FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS PAPER--E/5726 OF JULY 15). REQUEST WAS AGREED WITHOUT DISCUSSION. CHAIRMAN GRATUITOUSLY ADDED CHINESE ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT REQUESTED BY CHINESE REP. HOWEVER, CHAIRMAN MAY HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS NOW THAT HE REALIZES VOLUMINOUS AND HIGHLY TECHNICAL NATURE OF STANDARDS.

5. BEGIN TEXTS:

(A) E/L.1649/REV.1 TRANSPORT QUESTIONS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION

FURTHER STEPS TO BE TAKEN CONCERNING THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS
GOODS

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

CONSIDERING ITS RESOLUTIONS 645 G (XXIII) OF 26 APRIL 1957,
724 C (XXVIII) OF 17 JULY 1959 AND 1488 (XLVIII) OF 22 MAY 1970
CONCERNING THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS,

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 1743 (LIV) OF 4 MAY 1973 CONCERNING THE
INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND THEIR IDENTIFICA-
TIONS AND MARKING,

NOTING THAT DANGEROUS GOODS ACCOUNT FOR AN INCREASINGLY LARGE
PROPORTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE,

CONSCIOUS THAT THE TRANSPORT OF SUCH GOODS IN COMPLETE SAFETY
NEEDS TO BE ENSURED IN A MANNER WHICH WILL NOT HAMPER EITHER THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THIS IMPORTANT TRADE OR THE PARTICIPATION OF DE-
VELOPING COUNTRIES,

REAFFIRMING THAT THE INTERMODAL TRANSPORT OF SUCH GOODS NECES-
SITATES THOROUGH HARMONIZATION OF THE RULES GOVERNING THE VARIOUS
MODES OF TRANSPORT,

NOTING THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE COMMITTEE THAT, WHEN THE
SAME PROBLEMS ARE CONSIDERED BY DIFFERENT GROUPS, THEY MAY BE GIV-
EN SOLUTIONS THAT ARE SCARCELY COMPATIBLE AND THAT ARE THEREFORE
LIKELY TO IMPEDE HARMONIZATION;

TAKING NOTE OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
DIVERGENCIES CURRENTLY EXISTING IN THE MODAL PRACTICES APPLICABLE
TO THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS IN RESPECT OF THEIR CLASSIFI-
CATION, IDENTIFICATION, LABELLING AND PACKAGING AND ON THE STEPS
THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING ABOUT UNIFORMITY IN
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THE VARIOUS MODES, (\$1)

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ACTION IO-10

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NRC-07 OES-05 DLOS-04 FMC-02 /154 W

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R 241350Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4887
INFO USMISSION USUN
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 5893

DEPARTMENT PASS DOT

CONSIDERING THE WORK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP
FOR A CONVENTION ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORT (RESOLUTION 1744 (LIV))
OF 4 MAY 1973,

CONSIDERING ALSO RESOLUTION NO. 1 ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, WITH A VIEW TO THE
DRAFTING OF A SELF-CONTAINED INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT AS WELL AS
THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE, (\$2)

1. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS, TAKING INTO CONSIDERA-
TION THE REAL CAPABILITIES OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, TO PURSUE
ITS EFFORTS IN PARTICULAR IN TWO AREAS: TO GIVE THE RECOMMENDA-
TIONS MORE SCOPE AND DEPTH AND TO STRENGTHEN HARMONIZATION ON THE
BASES THAT HAVE NOW BEEN LAID;

2. ALSO REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO STUDY IN CONSUL-
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TATION WITH OTHER BODIES CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY THE UNITED NA-
TIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT, THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIA-
TION ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION AND
THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS, THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT AP-
PROACH TO THE DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE TRANS-
PORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT WHICH WOULD TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT THE GENERAL SCOPE OF A FUTURE CONVENTION ON INTERNA-

TIONAL INTERMODAL TRANSPORT, AND TO REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL THE RESULTS OF ITS STUDY;

3. URGES GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE COMMITTEE, IN PARTICULAR BY GIVING APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE VARIOUS BODIES CONCERNED AT THE INTERNATIONAL OR AT THE REGIONAL OR SUBREGIONAL LEVEL;

4. DECIDES TO ENLARGE THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS BY ADDING FIVE MEMBERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SO AS TO ENSURE THE ADEQUATE PARTICIPATION OF SUCH COUNTRIES, AND FOR THIS PURPOSE REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER THAT THEY MAY NOMINATE EXPERTS TO BE APPOINTED.

FOOTNOTES:

(\$1) SEE E/CN.2/CONF.5/56.

(\$2) SEE E/CN.2/CONF.5/57.

(B) E/L.1650/REV.1 TRANSPORT QUESTIONS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION
WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS 645 G (XXIII) OF 26 APRIL 1957, 724 C (XXVIII) OF 17 JULY 1959, 871 (XXXIII) OF 10 APRIL 1962, 994 (XXXVI) OF 16 DECEMBER 1963, 1110 (XL) OF 7 MARCH 1966, 1488 (XLVII) OF 22 MAY 1970 AND 1744 (LIV) OF 4 MAY 1973,

RECALLING ALSO RECOMMENDATIONS 71 AND 75 OF THE ACTION PLAN ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT, (\$1)

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS,

NOTING IN PARTICULAR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF 1975-1976 PRO-UNCLASSIFIED

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POSED BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AT ITS EIGHTH SESSION, (\$2)

1. COMMENDS THE EXPERTS AND RAPPORTEURS ON THEIR EXCELLENT WORK;

2. TAKES NOTE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS ON ITS EIGHTH SESSION;

3. TAKES NOTE ALSO THAT THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS INTENDS TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME ABOUT ITS ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION;

4. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN THE LIGHT OF THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS:

(A) TO INCORPORATE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE RECOMMENDATION ("TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS 1970") AS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ITS EIGHTH SESSION; (\$2)

(B) TO RECAST THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW STRUCTURE PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AND TO SECURE THE SERVICES OF A CONSULTANT FOR THIS PURPOSE;

(C) TO PUBLISH THE RECOMMENDATIONS, AS AMENDED, IN A PRINTED FORM IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES AND TO ENSURE LEGIBILITY;

(D) TO CIRCULATE THE AFORESAID RECOMMENDATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES TO THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, AND TO THE OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED;

(E) TO CONVENE MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AND OF ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK;

5. INVITES GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AND THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED TO TRANSMIT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SUCH COMMENTS AS THEY MAY WISH TO MAKE ON THE AMENDED RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO INDICATE TO WHAT EXTENT THEY WILL BE APPLIED.

FOOTNOTES:

(\$1) SEE UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION, SALES NO.E.73.II.A.14, CHAP.II.

(\$2) SEE E/CN.2/CONF.5/57.

(C) E/L.1651/REV.1 TRANSPORT QUESTIONS
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:
REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION

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TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THE FURTHER WORK DONE BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADEQUATE PACKAGING STANDARDS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT,
RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS ALREADY MADE BY THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ENSURE ADEQUATE PACKAGING STANDARDS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF DANGEROUS GOODS,
RECALLING IN PARTICULAR THAT PACKAGED GOODS CARRIED BY SEA AND AIR ARE NORMALLY CONVEYED BY OTHER MODES OF TRANSPORT AT SOME STAGE OF THEIR JOURNEY AND THAT CONFLICTING REQUIREMENTS HAMPER TRADE,
1. RECOMMENDS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED SHOULD, IN DRAWING UP THEIR REQUIREMENTS, TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE STANDARDS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WITH DUE REGARD TO THE NEEDS OF OTHER MODES OF TRANSPORT CONCERNED;
2. URGES GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES IN THE INTERESTS OF HARMONIZING PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS, PARTICULARLY FOR UN CLASSES 3-9, TO ACCEPT, AS PROVIDING AN ADEQUATE PHYSICAL STANDARD OF SAFETY FOR JOURNEYS TO AND FROM AIRPORTS AND SEAPORTS, PACKAGINGS WHICH MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSUL-

TATIVE ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION OR THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH PACKAGINGS COMPLY WITH OR EXCEED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS;

3. INVITES GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS FOR THE APPLICATION OF ADEQUATE PACKAGING STANDARDS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY SEA AND AIR, BASED IN PRINCIPLE ON THE REGULATIONS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION, OR THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH PACKAGINGS MEET OR EXCEED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS.

END TEXTS.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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